However, without conceding to the Examiner's assertions, and in the interest of promptly advancing this application to allowance, Applicants have amended claim 19 to remove the term "modulation," and substituted therefor the equally broad descriptive phrase "antagonize." Applicants further reserve the right to pursue claims containing the term in future related patent applications. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection to claim 19 has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

The Examiner maintained the rejection of claim19 under USC § 112, 1st paragraph, alleging that "the 'CCR5-associated response' includes both positive and negative responses and has the same issue as 'a disorder in which the modulation of CCR5 recpetor is implicated'." Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertions.

Applicants' patent specification provides support for (and enablement of) claim 19. For example, Applicants provide activity data for compounds falling within the scope of the claimed genus on page 62 of the specification.

However, without conceding to the Examiner's assertions, and in the interest of promptly advancing this application to allowance, Applicants have amended claim 19 pursuant to a discussion with the Examiner on May 6, 2003. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection to claim 19 has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt issuance of a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Dated: May 15, 2003

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Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

19. (Four Times Amended) A method of antagonizing ~~[treating]~~ a CCR5 receptor in a mammal ~~[a disorder]~~ comprising administering to said mammal in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to ~~[reduce or inhibit the]~~ antagonize the CCR5 receptor-associated responses in said mammal.

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